

## Teachers who spark interest in math, science and technology capture IPL Award

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Indianapolis Power & Light celebrates classroom innovation with IPL Golden Apple Award event, \$2,000 prize

Indianapolis, IN — Indianapolis Power & Light Company (IPL) fanned the flames of classroom innovation during the 2008 IPL Golden Apple Award ceremony held in the Indiana Roof Ballroom on Monday, May 12. The utility honored 25 teachers from across Central Indiana in recognition of their creative use of math, science and technology to teach and motivate children in K-12.

IPL recognized each teacher with \$2,000 and an IPL Golden Apple statue. In addition, IPL donated \$1,000 to each winning teacher's school. Since 1991, IPL has given more than \$1.3 million to the more than 450 teachers who have been saluted.

"The IPL Golden Apple Awards honor teachers who are shaping tomorrow's leaders to be inquisitive, creative and imaginative thinkers who see problems as challenges to be solved," said Greg Fennig, IPL's Vice President of Supply Chain and Public Affairs. "IPL is excited to applaud these educators for the impact they are having on their students, this community and generations to come."

Local winners and project descriptions (in alphabetical order)

Denise Adkins — Spanish, Noblesville High School, Noblesville Schools By using technology, students in this Spanish III class were able to share knowledge and ideas with students across the globe. The project, Technology in El Yunque, allowed virtual travel to El Yunque, a Puerto Rican rain forest. Students used Webcasts, podcasts, Web sites and e-mail to communicate one-on-one, in Spanish, with high school students in Condado, Puerto Rico. After talking with their Puerto Rican schoolmates, students transformed their classroom into a model of El Yunque based on their research.

Candy Ganzel — First Grade, Forest Dale Elementary, Carmel Clay Schools The What Symbolizes America project used multiple technologies. At the end of the project, the class created an enhanced podcast to share their new learning techniques with fellow students and families. The podcast was posted on the classroom Web site for all to see.

Mike Meyer — Special Services, Carmel High School, Carmel Clay Schools Through the four-week project, Interview Day/Pay Day, students learned skills needed for life after high school. Students learned how to create a proper résumé and cover letter using Microsoft Word®, job hunting techniques, appropriate attire for interviews and employment, interview etiquette, personal banking skills, and how to balance an individual budget.

Math skills were involved in counting money, properly writing a check, balancing a register, paying bills, and understanding how to differentiate prices and shop for discounts.

Becky Molebash — Fourth Grade, Shamrock Springs, Westfield Washington Schools This project, The World of Research, allowed students to make a Web site on a topic of their choice, while using many types of technology. The World of Research allowed students to learn and practice various research skills, learn to find reliable sites on the Internet, improve their typing skills and practice qualities of design.

Matthew Putman — Technology Education, Westfield High School, Westfield Washington Schools Students used The SMET2 Project — named for using Science, Math, Engineering and Technology — to create a Simple

Machine Energy Transformation device to solve a design challenge. Students created six SMET devices that were arranged in a pattern to transfer energy from the first device to the last. All groups had to communicate to make their projects work together in a chain reaction to raise an American flag three feet in the air at the end of the machine.